



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

North Central Division

Great Lakes Levels Update No. 39 October 3, 1988

Lake Ontario's September rainfall was only about 70 % of the average amount. Thus, its basin continues to be very dry for the year with a deficit of about 4 inches in total precipitation for the first nine months of 1988. Lake Erie's rainfall was also below average for September. The upper lakes' rainfall amounts for September were near, to slightly above average. The Lakes Michigan-Huron and Erie basins also have deficits of 2 inches and 6 inches, respectively, in total accumulated precipitation, thus far in 1988. Only Lake Superior has a surplus, about 1 inch, in total 1988 precipitation. The overall Great Lakes basin currently has a deficit of 2 inches in total precip-

itation for the first 9 months of 1988.

The 30-day National Weather Service outlook is for average temperatures, basin-wide, in October; rainfall is expected to be near average with the exception of the western portion of the Lake Superior basin, which is expected to be below average. The 90-day outlook (October-December) is for average temperatures with the exception of the Lake Erie basin which is expected to be above average; precipitation is expected to be near average, except for the southern portion of Lake Michigan and the Lake Erie basin, where the outlook is for above average precipitation.

For Great Lakes basin technical assistance or information, please contact one of the following Corps of Engineers District Offices:

For New York, Penn. & Ohio:

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Buffalo, NY 14207-3199
(716) 876-5454, Ext. 2201**

For Mich., Minn. & Wisc.:

**Colonel John D. Glass
Cdr, Detroit District
P.O. Box 1027
Detroit, MI 48231-1027
(313) 226-6440 or 6441**

For Ill. & Indiana:

**LTC Jess J. Franco Jr.
Cdr, Chicago District
219 S. Dearborn St.
6th Floor
Chicago, IL 60604-1797
(312) 353-6400**

The September average levels for Lakes Superior, Michigan-Huron and Ontario were 6 inches, 4 inches and 3 inches below their respective long-term averages. This month's average levels for Lakes St. Clair and Erie were 1.5 inches and 1 inch above their respective, long-term averages. All the lake levels fell in September in comparison to the previous month, with the exception of Lake Superior, which continued its seasonal rise, although gradually.

In the past two years there has been nearly a 3½-foot drop in the level of Lakes Michigan-Huron; the record high monthly mean of 581.6 feet occurred in October 1986. This drop has been the result of the general drought conditions in the basin during the past 23 months, particularly in the winter and spring

of 1987 and the first seven months of this year. Lake Superior's level is expected to begin its seasonal decline in October and all the other lakes will continue their normal seasonal decline.

An announcement providing complete information on the International Joint Commission's public forum on October 22 is printed on the back of this newsletter. You are invited to attend the forum site of your choice.

Frank D. Holly Jr.
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Deputy Commander

Dear Reader:

Citizens interested in the International Joint Commission Study regarding methods to alleviate the adverse effects of fluctuating water levels in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River basin will have an opportunity to learn about and discuss the progress of the study to date at a public forum on Saturday, October 22, 1988. The forum will be conducted by the Project Management Team (PMT), the study group established by the Commission to undertake development of the initial reports.

Members of the public may attend and participate in the forum in one of the ten communities selected to represent each Great Lake and connecting channel.

Discussions at the ten locations will be linked during the forum by a two-part satellite television broadcast from Detroit, Michigan. Presentations by PMT members and by panelists will be made during the first broadcast in the morning from Detroit.

In a second broadcast later in the day, PMT members and invited guests will answer questions, comment on, and discuss issues with participants in each of the ten locations.

The public forum on the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Levels Reference Study on October 22 is one of several opportunities for comment and input by those interested in the Reference Study.

Tele-Conference Locations

Duluth, Minnesota
University of Minnesota
10 University Drive
19 S.B.E., Room 140

Buffalo, New York
Canisius College
2001 Main Street

Windsor, Ontario
University of Windsor
Erie Hall, Room 1120

Potsdam, New York
Clarkson University
Science Center
Room 111

Chicago, Illinois
Triton College
2000 5th Avenue
River Grove, IL
Robert Collins Center,
Room 221

Toledo, Ohio
WGTE-TV Studio
Channel 30
136 Huron

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
Sault College
443 Northern Ave.
Room E 180

Owen Sound, Ontario
Georgian College
1150 8th Street East

Oakville, Ontario
Sheridan College
Trafalgar Road
Room B125

Montreal, Quebec
Tele Universite a Montreal
4835 Ave. Christophe Colomb
Centre Nord

Please complete coupon and return to:

International Joint Commission
ATTN: Kim Tassier
P.O. Box 32869
Detroit, MI 48232-9897
or call: 313/226-2170

Yes! I will attend on Saturday October 22, 1988 (check location)

Name:

Address

State/Province:

Zip Code:

Duluth

Windsor

Chicago

Sault Ste. Marie

Oakville

Buffalo

Potsdam

Toledo

Montreal

Owen Sound